

In the Drawings

Please replace the drawing sheet containing Figure 7 with the attached replacement sheet.

REMARKS

In the patent application, claims 1-24 are pending. In the office action, all pending claims are rejected.

Applicant has amended claims 1-4, 8, 13 and 21-24. Claims 1-4, 8 and 13 have been amended to re-arrange the wording of the claims and to change the expressions “characterized by” and “characterized in that” to “comprising” and “wherein”.

Claim 8 has also been amended to replace “means for providing in the bitstream information indicative of the switching point” by “a module for providing in the bitstream information indicative of the switching point”. This module is described as the computer program 16 in the video coder 14 (see page 12, lines 5-12, of the specification).

Claims 21-24 have been amended to claim a software application product embodied in a computer readable storage medium instead of a software program.

Applicant has also amended the specification by replacing the acronym “IDR” in the third line under **Semantics** on page 11 of the specification to “GDR”. The acronym “IDR” is a typographical error. As indicated in the paragraph between lines 4 to line 9, p.11 of the specification, a random access point can be a GDR point or an IDR point. If the random access point is a GDR point, the information also includes which slice group is the isolated region and which slice group is the leftover region. Accordingly, the variable `random_access_point_idc` under **Semantics** is assigned to 1 or 2 to indicate which slice group is the isolated region and which slice group is the leftover region when the random access point is a GDR point. The variable is assigned to 0 when the random access point is not a GDR point.

Applicant has also amended the specification on page 13, to separate “to the” into “to the” (line 4) and separate “AVC)developed” into “AVC) developed” (line 5).

Applicant has amended the drawings by replacing the drawing sheet containing Figure 7 with a replacement sheet, adding reference numerals 14 and 16 to denote the video coder and the computer program, respectively. The reference numerals 14 and 16 are mentioned on page 12, lines 5-12, of the specification

No new matter has been introduced.

At section 2 of the office action, claims 1-24 are rejected for double patenting as being unpatentable over some claims in the co-pending application Serial No. 10/848,966 (944-001.111-2).

Applicant respectfully submits herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome this non-statutory obviousness-type double-patenting.

At section 4 of the office action, claims 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because they are directed to non-statutory matter.

Applicant has amended claims 21-24 to claim a software application product embodied in a computer readable storage medium.

Applicant respectfully submits that such product claims are allowable.

At section 6, claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Srikantan et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0029548 A1, hereafter referred to as *Srikantan*), in view of *Boyce* (U.S. Patent No. 5,778,143).

In rejecting these claims, the Examiner states that *Srikantan* discloses a signaling method for use in stream switching among a plurality of streams. The Examiner admits that *Srikantan* fails to disclose providing in the bitstream information indicative of the switching point, but points to *Boyce* for disclosing this feature.

It is respectfully submitted that *Srikantan* is concerned with handling events received at a number of sockets in a computer server configured to serve clients. In one embodiment, one socket is shared by a number of clients or consumers (paragraphs [0006] – [0007]). In another embodiment, a plurality of registered sockets are associated with a plurality of event consumers, wherein registered sockets may be divided into multiple collections so that the sockets within a collection can share a processor thread to detect events and to notify event consumers (paragraph [0009]).

Srikantan does not disclose stream switching wherein a first bitstream is switched to a second bitstream at a switching point or disclose a recovery point which defines a first correct or approximately correct picture in the second bitstream. *Srikantan* does not disclose that the recovery point is different from the switching point.

Boyce is concerned with a video tape recorder (VTR) **trick play operation**, such as fast forward and reverse operations (col.1, lines 31-37). During a trick play operation, a trick play frame is displayed for every N frames displayed during normal play operation. For example, in a 9x fast forward operation, one trick play frame is displayed for every 9 normal play video frames (col.6, lines 8-14). In displaying video frames, when I (intra)-frames are used at regular intervals, the picture will be refreshed at a regular basis (col.3, lines 31-32). But when I-frames are not used at regular intervals, a progressive refresh is used. When progressive refresh is used, within a certain period of time, each macroblock in the picture is coded intra at least once (col.3, lines 33-44).

Boyce discloses a data extraction technique for extracting data from a video bitstream including a plurality of inter-coded video frames and arranging the data to form fully intra-coded frames which can be used for VTR trick play operation (col.5, lines 53-61; col.7, lines 26-30). *Boyce* uses a data extraction and frame forming (DEFF) circuit to identify the intra-coded macroblocks in the bitstream and combine the intra-coded macroblocks from several intra-coded frames into a single composite intra-coded video frame for VTR trick play operation (col. 6, lines 39-52).

Boyce does not disclose stream switching between a first bitstream and a second bitstream at a switching point. *Boyce* has nothing to do with a recovery point being different from the switching point.

For the above reasons, *Srikantan*, in view of *Boyce*, fails to render the claimed invention obvious.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-24 are allowable. Early allowance of claims 1-24 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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ANNOTATED

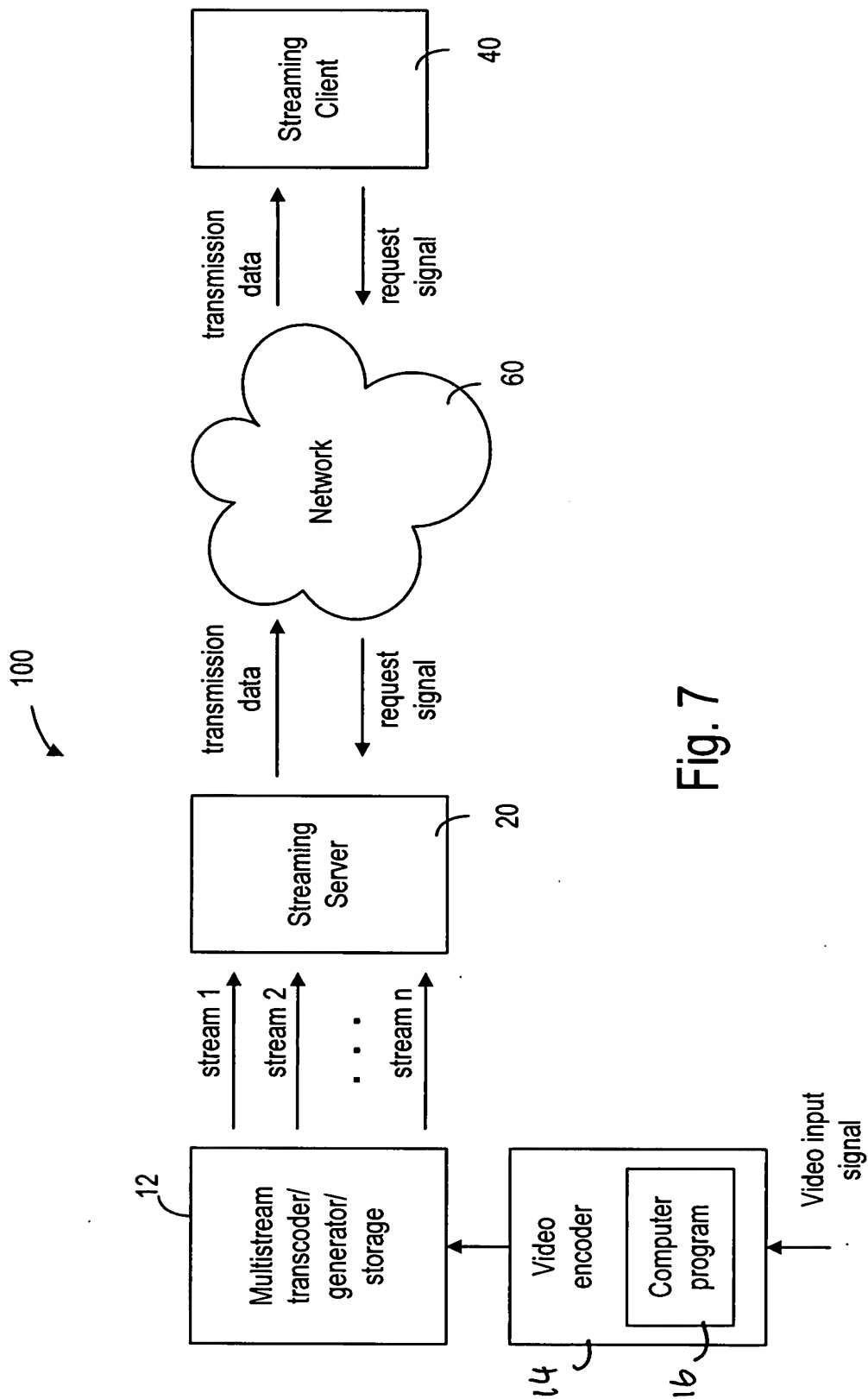


Fig. 7